



HA‘ILONO KINA

TO BRING THE NEWS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

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Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB)

Happy New Year!

JANUARY 2004

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DCAB Monitors Proposed State and Local Policy Changes Impacting People with Disabilities

The seventeen-member Disability and Communication Access Board has recently reviewed a number of proposed administrative actions for their impact on persons with disabilities. The following are some of the more significant actions and the positions taken by DCAB.

- **Maui County Bill 41 – A Bill for an Ordinance to Clarify and Implement the County of Maui’s Policy of Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Disability with Respect to Recreational Area Regulations and the Waiehu Municipal Golf Course.** This bill clarifies and defines a personal mobility device as a mobility aid belonging to any class of multi-wheeled devices designed for and used by individuals with disabilities. Sections of the Ordinance are being rewritten to clarify and expand the use of personal mobility devices. DCAB took a position in support of Bill 41.

- **State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation Administrative Rules Chapter 19-15.1 Relating to Operation of Motor Vehicles at Public Airports.** These proposed rule changes make the airports’ rules relating to parking consistent with DCAB’s rules on parking for persons with disabilities under Chapter 11-219. DCAB took a position in support of the proposed rule change and provided written testimony at public hearings held in early December, 2003.

- **State of Hawaii, Department of Agriculture Rules 4-29 on “Dogs, Cats, and Other Carnivores.”** These rules expand modified quarantine to comply with the recent consent decree settling Thomas v. Nakatani and make other clarifying changes. DCAB took action to support the rules, but made recommendations to expand the modified quarantine to animals other than dogs. DCAB also opposed a proposed requirement to eliminate licensing requirements. Hearings were held in early November. The rules have been passed by the Department of Agriculture and are awaiting the Governor’s approval.

For more information on the above policy issues, contact either **Charlotte** or **Debbie** at the DCAB office.

DCAB Hosts Successful and Well-Attended Conference on Communication Access

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Pacific Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center in Berkeley, California, and Sprint Relay Hawaii, DCAB coordinated the ‘**Communication is Key**’ conference on November 18, 2003. 225 attendees learned how to communicate with individuals with hearing, vision, and speech

disabilities using a variety of strategies and technologies. Workshop presenters provided information on using sign language interpreters, new Telecommunications Relay Services provided by Sprint Re-



lay Hawaii, Braille and other alternate formats for individuals with vision loss, captioning options, website accessibility, and accessible information technology. New and emerging information technology and equipment were also on display for agencies and consumers to touch, feel, and learn how to bridge just about any communication gap.

The Communication is Key Conference was coordinated with the opening of the new Sprint Relay Hawaii Call Center just two days later on November 20, 2003.

New Board Member Joins DCAB

DCAB welcomes its newest Board member, **William Koki**, recently appointed by Governor Lingle to a term starting December 5, 2003. Mr. Koki is employed as an Independent Living Specialist at the Hawaii Centers for Independent Living (HCIL) in Honolulu. He is a nationally certified sign language interpreter and instructor in the American Sign Language Interpreter Education Program at Kapiolani Community College. He is also an emerging consumer with a recent loss of hearing himself. Mr. Koki filled a vacancy left by Kristine Pagano, who resigned to take a staff position.

Police Departments Receive ADA Training

DCAB recently conducted five training sessions for the Hawaii County Police Department presented by **Charlotte Townsend**, DCAB's Assistant Director, and **Kristine Pagano**, DCAB's new Communication Access Specialist. The presenters gave an overview of Title II of the ADA, followed by important communication access information on how to communicate with people with various disabilities. Strategies on how to ensure 'effective communication' with a person with a visual loss as well as with people who have hearing or speech disabilities were discussed. Police recruits along with seasoned police officers and frontline clerical staff attended the training.

The training sessions were conducted to address issues brought up by the deaf and hard-of-hearing community on the Big Island regarding problems they have experienced when communicating with police officers. One of these problems has been how someone with a hearing loss can identify themselves as Deaf when questioned by a police officer. One possible solution is to issue an identification card to people with hearing disabilities that would alert the officer that an auxiliary aid or service may be required to ensure effective communication.



Additional training sessions are scheduled for the Maui and Kauai County Police Departments in early 2004.

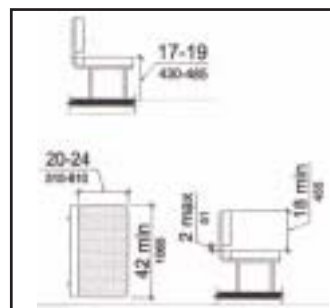
DCAB Interpretive Opinions Issued

DCAB has ruled on several interpretive opinions on accessibility of State and County facilities under H.R.S. §103-50. Some recent interpretive opinions are:

Interpretive Opinion 2003-03: The temperature controls for accessible side-by-side refrigerator/freezers used for State, City and County housing projects currently do not need to comply with mounting heights and reach range requirements for accessibility.

Interpretive Opinion 2003-05: Steps for stairs that are required to be accessible shall be the same as the currently adopted building codes by jurisdiction.

Interpretive Opinion 2003-07: Accessible benches in lockers are required to provide back support. A fixed bench can be attached to a wall or can be free standing as long as there is back support with the minimum dimensions as shown below:



Accessible Locker Room Bench

For a complete list, select the "Interpretive Opinions" link on DCAB's website at www.hawaii.gov/health/dcab/



YOU ARE BLOCKING AN ACCESS AISLE INTENDED FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

If this were a citation the penalty would be a
\$250 - \$500 fine.

Section 291-57, Hawaii Revised Statutes

THIS IS A WARNING!

If you have a mobility impairment and if you
qualify for a parking permit, see reverse side
for a list of issuing agencies.

A public education
awareness project of

Disability and Communication Access Board
919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 101
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

www.hawaii.gov/health/dcab/

YOU ARE ILLEGALLY PARKED—THIS IS A WARNING!

Have you seen cars illegally parked in a space reserved for persons with disabilities? DCAB has started a public education project to address this problem by distributing two warning notices that can be left on the windshield of an illegally parked car. The flyers explain the violation (either occupying a parking space or an access aisle reserved for persons with disabilities) and state what the penalty would be if a citation were issued to the driver. In addition, a list of agencies that issue parking permits is printed on the back so that a driver with a mobility impairment that qualifies knows where to obtain a permit. DCAB emphasizes that the purpose of these notices is to increase public awareness of parking laws in a NON-CONFRONTATIONAL manner. Therefore, please be respectful, courteous and cautious when using them. For more information or to obtain these warning notices, contact **Adele Ching**, DCAB's new Program Support Specialist, or your **County ADA Coordinator**.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR



TOOLS FOR LIFE

A 21st Century Look at Assistive Technology and Services

July 9 –10, 2004

Blaisdell Exhibition Center, Honolulu, Hawaii

THE EVENT

The Tools for Life Expo and Conference is a collaborative exhibit with concurrent workshops designed to bring information to individuals with disabilities, their families, and advocates regarding civil rights laws and technological support options to maximize independence in society.

THE EXHIBITS

Exhibit hours will be from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Exhibits will emphasize products and services to assist persons with disabilities in daily living with a focus on technology for use at home, in school, or in the workplace. The exhibits will be free to the public.

THE WORKSHOPS

Workshops will be from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the adjacent Pikake room and Hawaii suites. Workshops on Friday, July 9 will be geared to professionals in government agencies and the business community. Workshops on Saturday, July 10 will be geared towards persons with disabilities and their families.

HOSTS

- Pacific Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center
- Disability and Communication Access Board, State of Hawaii (DCAB)
- Assistive Technology Resource Centers of Hawaii (ATRC)
- Aloha Special Technology Access Center
- Department of Education
- Hawaii Centers for Independent Living

COORDINATING PARTNERS

- Easter Seals Hawaii
- Department of Health
- State Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities

SPONSORS (as of 10/03)

- Access Aloha Travel
- Very Special Arts Hawaii - Pacific
- PDMI Care

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To exhibit, contact Eric Arveson (Aloha Special Technology Access Center) at astachi@yahoo.com (ph. 523-5547) or Kim Shiraishi (ATRC) at kim@atrc.org (ph. 532-7111 V/TTY or 1-800-645-3007).

For other program information, contact Francine Wai (DCAB) at accesshi@aloha.net (ph. 586-8121 V/TTY) or Barbara Fischlowitz-Leong (ATRC) at barbara@atrc.org (ph. 532-7110 V/TTY or 1-800-645-3007).

PLEASE POST

11/03

**DISABILITY AND
COMMUNICATION
ACCESS BOARD
MEMBERS**

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Chairperson
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Sharon Fountain
Dean Georgiev
Francine Aona Kenyon
Marie Kimmey
William Koki, II
Sterling Kryslar
Steve Laracuente
Norman Olesen
Christina Pilkington
Francine Wai,
Executive Director

DCAB's Facility Access Unit Welcomes Two New Staff

Mona Higa is a new Specialist with the following responsibilities: review of State and County projects for compliance to ADAAG; development of new design guidelines; code analysis as it relates to accessibility; staff support for DCAB's Standing Committee on Facility Access; and coordination of training on accessible design. Mona has a Bachelors degree in Architecture from the University of Hawaii. She has worked in private practice specializing in interior architecture and design, with experience working on a variety of projects, including commercial, hospitality, medical and educational projects. Mona has three children who keep her busy at home leaving a little time for crafts or reading.



David Poe is also a new Specialist and has the following responsibilities: review of State and County projects for compliance to ADAAG and assist with the analysis of design guidelines, codes and standards related to accessibility. David has an Associate degree in Drafting Technology from Leeward Community College and is a Certified Drafting Technologist through the Construction Specifications Institute. David has worked for several architectural firms where his responsibilities included design development and construction administration in commercial, residential, industrial, medical and government projects from inception to completion. David is married and has one grown son.

DCAB Says Farewell to Two Staff Members

We regret to report the loss of two good friends and co-workers. **Chris Dixon**, who was a Specialist in the Facility Access Unit for more than 10 years, passed away on October 11, 2003. **Lorraine Young**, Program Support Specialist, passed away on October 26, 2003. We miss them and extend our condolences to their families.



PHONE

Oahu: 586-8121 v/tty
Kauai: 274-3141 v/tty
ext. 6-8121#
Hawaii: 974-4000 v/tty
ext. 6-8121#
Maui: 984-2400 v/tty
ext. 6-8121#
Molokai & Lanai:
1-800-468-4644 v/tty



FAX
(808) 586-8129



EMAIL
accesshi@aloha.net

WEB

www.hawaii.gov/health/dcab

DCAB
919 Ala Moana Blvd., Rm. 101
Honolulu, HI 96814

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